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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Takashi KOBAYASHI : Docket No. 2001_0484A
Serial No. 09/842,187 :
Filed April 26, 2001 :

INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM
AND METHOD STRENGTHEN IN PASSWORD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Title:

Please replace the original title with the following rewritten title:

INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM HAVING FORTIFIED PASSWORD FUNCTION
AND METHOD THEREOF

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15, with the following
rewritten paragraph:

In Fig. 2, a power-on step 21 is for turning on the power supply of the information processing system. The information processing system then starts executing the basic input-output system (BIOS) 2. At recorded password check step 22, CPU 1 checks the nonvolatile memory 5 and the secondary memory 6. CPU 1 determines whether or not the startup

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